

Map Scale



Map scale shows the relationship between the distance on a map and the actual distance on the Earth's surface.

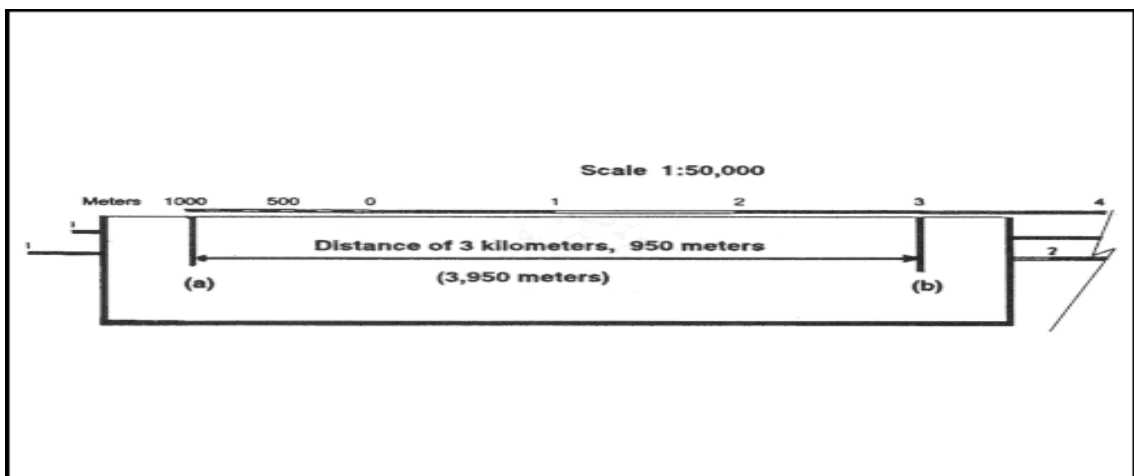
1. Direct Statement Scale

- Uses words to describe the relationship between a distance on a map and a specific distance on the Earth's surface

1 cm to 10 km or 1 cm = 10 km

2. Linear Scale

- A special **RULER** on the map that is divided into equal units of distance
- Always includes the units of measurement on the Earth's surface
- Always blocks out units of measurement on the map (the alternated black blocks on the linear scale)



3. Representative Fraction Scale (RF)

- The fraction is a ratio where one unit on the map equals a specific number of the same unit on the Earth's surface
- Always done as a ratio or fraction of 1

1:50,000

**1:50,000 equals 1 cm = 0.5 km

** 1 cm on the map equals 50,000 cm on the Earth's surface

Conversions

1 km = 1000 m

1 m = 100 cm

1 km = (1,000x100) cm = 100,000 cm

